

CLAIMS

1 1. In a data processing system including a legacy data base management system having a
2 command language coupled to a publically accessible digital data communication network,
3 the improvement comprising:

- 4 a. a response generated by said legacy data base management system; and
- 5 b. a facility for converting said response into an XML message which is transferable
- 6 over said publically accessible digital data communication network.

1 2. The improvement according to claim 1 wherein said facility further comprises an output
2 definition table.

1 3. The improvement according to claim 2 wherein said facility further comprises a
2 document type definition corresponding to said XML message.

1 4. The improvement according to claim 3 wherein said facility includes storage for said
2 output definition table.

1 5. The improvement according to claim 4 wherein said facility further comprises a
2 repository responsively coupled to said legacy data base management system wherein said
3 output definition table and said document type definition are stored within said repository.

1 6. An apparatus comprising:

- 2 a. a publically accessible digital data communication network;
- 3 b. a data base management system having an internal format different from XML
- 4 responsively coupled to said publically accessible digital data communication
- 5 network which generates a response in said internal format; and
- 6 c. an Output Definition Table which converts said response into an XML document
- 7 for transmission on said publically accessible digital data communication network.

1 7. The apparatus of claim 6 further comprising a Document Type Definition (DTD) which

2 defines a format of said XML document.

1 8. The apparatus of claim 7 further comprising a repository within said data base

2 management system for storage of said Output Definition Table.

1 9. The apparatus of claim 8 further comprising a window for user activation of said Output

2 Definition Table.

1 10. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said publically accessible digital data communication

2 system further comprises the Internet.

1 11. A method of supplying a response from a data base management system
2 comprising:

- 3 a. transferring a service request to said data base management system via a
4 publically accessible digital data communication network;
5 b. processing said service request by said data base management system to
6 produce a response;
7 c. converting said response into an XML document using an Output
8 Definition Table (ODT); and
9 d. transmitting said XML document via said publically accessible digital
10 data communication network.

1 12. A method according to claim 11 wherein said converting step includes use of a
2 Document Type Definition corresponding to said XML document.

1 13. A method according to claim 12 wherein said Output Definition Table is
2 dynamically generated from storage.

1 14. A method according to claim 13 wherein said converting step further comprises an
2 XML element to source mapping tree containing an internal representation that
3 assures conformance to said Document Type Definition.

1 15. A method according to claim 14 wherein said publically accessible digital data
2 communication network further comprises the Internet.

1 16. An apparatus comprising:

2 a. means for transmitting an XML document via a publically accessible digital
3 data communication network;

4 b. means responsively coupled to said transmitting means for processing a
5 service request to produce a response;

6 c. means responsively coupled to said processing means for converting said
7 response into said XML document; and

8 d. means responsively coupled to said converting means and said transmitting
9 means for sending said XML document to said transmitting means for
10 transmission via said publically accessible digital data communication network.

1 17. An apparatus according to claim 16 wherein said processing means further
2 comprises a repository.

1 18. An apparatus according to claim 17 further comprising means for defining a format
2 of said XML document.

1 20. An apparatus according to claim 19 wherein said storing means stores said
2 defining means for future use.